

**CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
CITY OF WATERTOWN
May 13, 2013
7:00 P.M.**

Mayor Jeffrey E. Graham Presiding

Present: Council Member Roxanne M. Burns
Council Member Joseph M. Butler Jr.
Council Member Teresa R. Macaluso
Council Member Jeffrey M. Smith

Not Present: Sharon Addison, City Manager

City Staff Present: Ken Mix, Elliott Nelson, Kurt Hauk, Mike Sligar, Erin Gardner, Celia Cook, Captain Clark

Black River Planning – Dr. Jason White, River Committee and Carla Malmgren, Community Development Specialist, NYS Tug Hill Commission

Ms. Malmgren addressed Council explaining that the Consolidated Funding Application will be coming due shortly and noted that funds have been put into one offering to make the process simpler for the applicant. She added that there is a rush to get it submitted and hopes to help prepare for that. Ms. Malmgren told Council that she helps the Town of Martinsburg administer Black River Blue Wave grants on behalf of the 37 Black River communities.

Dr. White addressed Council saying he is involved in both Advantage Watertown and the River Committee and what he hopes to present today is an opportunity for the City of Watertown to have a significant investment in the riverfront without a significant capital or general fund cash match. Recently, the Governor has decided that he would like to advance tourism in Upstate New York and has put \$16 million into Empire State Development, Dr. White said, and it is hoped that those funds will bring people from New York City into the Upstate area. He added that there is a White Water Challenge that has been proposed on the Eastern side of the Adirondacks, and Dr. White said he feels there are a number of opportunities for our area with this advertising funding. One of the opportunities is through the consolidated funding round to apply for funds to make some improvements and connections to the parks the City already has.

He showed a PowerPoint presentation to Council, highlighting the grant total of \$100,000 to \$150,000. There will be no net change in the general fund or capital budget because of the Black River Fund, which is money that the City's hydro plant puts away every year and there is approximately \$47,000 there currently which can be used as a cash match for an application. Additionally, he said, there are some other grant opportunities and there were discussions in which DPW would provide in-kind labor, as far as paving trails and leveling land. He said he is hoping the City will apply to the CFA round. Dr. White pointed out the history of waterfront revitalization, dating back to the 1980s, and the areas which have seen improvements. He pointed to a map showing future Black River Trail parks and said the end goal is to have a cohesive connection throughout the City. In addition, he said focus would be placed on connecting Bicentennial Park and the Fairgrounds Trail to the community; connecting North side access of the River downstream from Marble Street at Edmund Street, and connecting White Water Park and the Riverwalk. He reviewed some schematics from the LWRP for possible improvements along the

River and other opportunities for trail and park revitalization in the immediate area to help increase tourism.

Mayor Graham responded that the City relies on City staff for recommendations on CFA and said his focus in applying for state grants in recent years has been on issues such as Mercy or the Woolworth Building. He said that some of the improvements have cleaned up areas and they really look nice but noted the Abe Cooper site has a deck that no one uses and the Veteran's Walkway is not used a lot so he questioned connecting certain parks and areas and suggested concentrating on getting increased usage out of some of the existing areas and not assume that there will be people walking from one end of the City to the other.

Dr. White said he agrees that there needs to be focus on improving the visibility and usability of all the parks. He mentioned that if the parks were connected, events such as the Heart Walk and other exercise activities could be brought through the middle of the City and that is when people would have the opportunity to see some of the gems in Watertown.

Mayor Graham commented that he needs to put in a plug for his pet-peeve which is Sewall's Island, about getting it cleaned up and that it is a horrible bit of blight which has sat that way for 30 years with no end in sight. What we see the most, he said, is what we think generates the greatest need.

Council Member Butler thanked Dr. White for his time and commitment to these types of projects and said he would like the City to get the most bang for its buck but when trying to market the Black River, he questioned how much money would be used. He asked if this is a 'build it and they will come' type of philosophy and noted that it would be great to schedule a road race in the City along the river sometime during the summer.

Dr. White said about 40,000 people come every summer to raft the rivers in the region and the tourism effort statewide will help bring people to the area.

Mayor Graham asked about a proposal for this year's CFA and what needs to be submitted.

Ms. Malgrem suggested concentrating on one or two sections, create a consensus from there and noted the turn around time would be two and a half months. An application would be submitted to the Department of State under the LWRP and Parks and Recreation. She noted requirements have to be met for both programs and that a resolution would be needed.

Regarding fishing along the river and given recent events, Mayor Graham mentioned the need for some safer venues for fishing where people can go and have some level of security. He hoped that would be an area that could be concentrated on.

Council Member Butler asked if a grant is being sought for \$100,000 to \$150,000.

Dr. White replied the actual grant from the CFA would be a fifty-fifty match with the match for the City being drawn from the Black River Fund and possibly some in-kind labor, not a cash match. He noted that if \$45,000 was used from the BRF and \$35,000 was in-kind labor, that would meet the fifty percent match.

Council Member Smith asked about the specific areas that would be focused on and asked if the City has a better chance of funding now since the City twice has tried to get funds for the arena which is the most

utilized City facility, and was denied.

Dr. White answered that these grants are specifically focused on improvements and what is being looked at are improvements to access of the fairgrounds, including parking. He mentioned the City receives extra points in the grant process because it is on a “blue way.”

Mayor Graham suggested Dr. White work with Ken Mix’s office first, to prevent something coming before Council in resolution form that not everyone has bought into, then circulate via memo some of the recommendations. Then, he said, if there is enough consensus it could go before Council at the first meeting in June.

Council Member Smith commented he would like to see a defined project, a cost and how much of the BRF would be used. In regard to the in-kind service, he suggested contacting Gene Hayes, DPW Superintendent, to see what other projects are going on.

Fluoride Presentation – Dr. Paul Connett, St. Lawrence University

Mayor Graham welcomed Dr. Connett and invited him to begin his presentation.

Dr. Connett thanked Council for the opportunity to speak. He began by saying he has spent 17 years researching the fluoridation issue both as a professor and now as the Director of the Fluoride Action Network. He said he co-authored a book with two other scientists entitled The Case Against Fluoride and that he is before Council to persuade the City of Watertown to stop this practice and join much of the world in having a non-fluoridated water supply, including towns in New York such as Albany, Ithaca and areas on Long Island.

He outlined his presentation which is set in three parts: why fluoridation should not have started, the ugly facts about fluoridation which should have ended the practice and a simple way in which Council can decide which side has the stronger case. He started by saying the public water supply should not be used to deliver medicine because there is no control who gets it, how much they get and that it violates the individual’s right to informed consent to medicine. He pointed out that fluoride is not a nutrient and it does no good to swallow fluoridated products. In addition, he said most countries do not fluoridate their water but the children’s teeth in those countries are as healthy as in the countries that do fluoridate their water. He reviewed the rate of tooth decay in various countries, its effects on the human body and developing tissue, the overexposure of American children to fluoride which causes varying levels of fluorosis and many other facts presented in the PowerPoint presentation, on file in the City Clerk’s Office.

Mayor Graham commented that the presentation was very good and he appreciates the opportunity to hear about the topic. He said Watertown has been fluoridating for approximately 50 years, and the matter has been fairly quiet until now, and given the background of Council members, it is difficult to make a judgment on a medical or scientific issue such as this. He asked why this is a big deal now.

Dr. Connett replied that part of the reason is that the Internet is making the science available. When the Fluoride Action Network started, the goal was to link together the scientists, dentists and doctors in different countries who were in a minority, but when they were linked together worldwide, then there is a larger body of opinion helping each other.

Mayor Graham said there has been some response from local health officials and dentists.

Dr. Connett remarked that if those entities have confidence in what they are writing, then they should be able to present their case this evening while he is present.

Council Member Smith said that he is open minded in terms of which avenue to pursue, and added that he thinks both sides agree that fluoride is good for one's teeth. He said he has not found where fluoridated water is good for people or bad for people.

Dr. Connett replied that what is agreed on at this point is that topically fluoride may be helpful for teeth.

Council Member Smith said he is looking for scientific studies proving one way or the other fluoride's helpfulness or harm.

Dr. Connett noted there were some presented this evening, citing the Warren Study and IQ studies. There has been no systematic attempt to find out how much fluoride Americans are being exposed to, he said. Another point that both sides agree on is that the severity of dental fluorosis is an indicator of how much fluoride a child was exposed to before their permanent teeth erupted.

Council Member Smith said the various medical associations and groups in the country are not trying to harm people by endorsing or supporting fluoridation, and he said he is not sure why they do, and mentioned some organizations that do not comment one way or another. He asked Dr. Connett why he thinks these medical providers and organizations are continuing to support the practice.

They are very busy people, Dr. Connett replied, in terms of treating patients. As far as the endorsements are concerned, when they originally took place not one single trial had been completed and there were not significant health studies being published in literature. He said that original endorsement could not have been scientific because the science was not on the table. By 1952, nearly all the prestigious professional medical organizations endorsed fluoridation with no trials completed, and no significant studies on the table. At some point, he said, the endorsement practice becomes fossilized and fluoridation becomes a belief system and so much credibility have been sunk into its promotion that it is very difficult for these organizations to admit they have made a mistake.

Council Member Butler commented about over-fluoridation being evident with fluorosis and he said when he speaks with his dentist he says he only sees percentages in the single digits in this area. He noted some communities might be under-fluoridated and some might be over-fluoridated.

Dr. Connett said the classic anecdotal information has been spelled out by his dentist and that information has to be matched against the CDC. He said that 41% of children aged 12-15 have dental fluorosis across the country. Dr. Connett mentioned several places people can obtain research on fluoride and the findings of various studies, including on his organization's website. He again strongly encouraged a debate on the matter with a professional who is pro-fluoridation. Dr. Connett mentioned that he debated the Chairman of the British Fluoridation Society on the Isle of Mann, which would not fluoridate unless the promoters could produce someone to debate him. They found Prof. Michael Lennon, Advisor to the World Health Organization, and held a debate before Parliament in public, and the end result was that the Isle of Mann did not fluoridate.

Council Member Butler remarked that a debate should be promoted through an educational institution, such as JCC, as a Council meeting is not that type of forum. He said his decision will come from reading and talking to knowledgeable people on both sides.

Council Members said they would be interested in hearing a debate on the issue.

Regarding the ingestion of fluoride, Council Member Smith asked about its harmfulness and said he is looking for studies and noted this could be one of the most important public health issues this Council could face.

Dr. Connett replied that in the case of fluoride, there are human experiments which include millions of people who have damaged bones in India and China at fluoride levels which are not very high. He said some people have the philosophy of the absence of study is the absence of harm and commented that if the City votes out fluoridation, the promoters will be here in droves. He concluded by saying he appreciated the opportunity to speak this evening.

Mayor Graham thanked Dr. Connett for the presentation.

Parks and Recreation Fees – Erin Gardner, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation and Celia Cook, Program Manager

Erin Gardner addressed Council saying the City Manager tasked her and Ms. Cook with looking at the fees for the department and at how much goes into putting on each program with the goal of trying to recoup at least fifty percent of what the City puts into the costs for the programs.

Mayor Graham said at one level the goal is to place a theoretical value on the services offered and then whether or not the City chooses to recoup any of that. He noted the list is fairly extensive and asked if any of the programs are charged currently.

Ms. Gardner pointed out the programs which do have fees presently and the other fees noted in the memo are proposed new fees.

Council Member Burns reviewed the minimal fees.

Council Member Macaluso expressed concern with having City residents pay as much as those who live outside of the City, adding that she understands the City should recoup some of the expense.

Mayor Graham said he understands the economics of it but he does not like to see the City get too hung up on that issue. He said he is a little wary of getting into too big a laundry list of fees. Mayor Graham noted he has trouble nickel and diming kids in regard to some of the programs.

Ms. Gardner explained that the fishing clinic allows kids to learn how to fish and the participants would be allowed to take the fishing pole with them.

Council Member Macaluso reiterated that she does not think kids who live in the City should pay as much as those who live outside the City noting that other communities offer programs for their residents. She noted that a jump from no fee to \$20 for T-ball is big.

Council Member Butler said he would not charge City residents for T-Ball, youth baseball and tennis because the kids are trying to be encouraged to participate and a jump of \$20 is going to hurt that philosophy more than it will help the City raise money.

Council Member Macaluso said she does not suggest not charging anything because some fees have to be recouped. She said she heard from some people that the cost for golf lessons was too low and said they would not mind paying up to \$25 or \$50. There is a cost of equipment, she said, and it has to be paid for some way. She mentioned taking some money from the Tourism Fund to help defray the cost for those who cannot afford to pay the increased fees.

Council Member Smith said he supports having City and non-City resident fees be different and those who live outside the City should pay more because the City taxpayers pay for these programs as well. There are those who do not have an income that would allow participation in programs if the fees were to increase for City residents, he said, and he thinks there should be lower, reasonable rates for in-City users and higher rates for outside users.

Mayor Graham asked if golf was taught at the local golf courses.

Council Member Burns replied that it is.

Mayor Graham questioned why the clubs do not offer lessons if they are trying to promote that sport.

Council Member Burns answered that they do but it is a lot more expensive than what the City is charging for lessons. She said she agrees that there does need to be a different fee for City taxpayers versus non-City taxpayers. In addition, the parents are the ones who will be paying for the programs and if they are not willing to support this tax base, she said, then there needs to be a little bit of value in being able to avail oneself to these fees. She understands the sentiments that this perhaps is a bit too much of an increase but she said she can support this because she is very impressed with all of the quality additional activities that have been added. It is a big cost to the City but she said she is very excited about the creativity and variety of programs. She also stated that there needs to be a distinction between the City and non-City taxpayer.

Mayor Graham asked if the department has much of an issue trying to differentiate between those who live inside or outside the City.

Ms. Gardner said that part of the problem last year was that people were lying on the registration applications by giving a relative's address inside the City to get the lower rate. She added that it is difficult to police and that not everyone comes into the office to register for programs. The reservation software now allows people to go online to sign up for activities, making the policing more difficult, she said.

Council Member Macaluso suggested that if the Parks and Recreation department finds that the applicant's address used is not their valid address, they would be removed from the activity.

Ms. Gardner said that could be made part of the registration.

Council Member Burns said she does not want to see City staff put an extreme amount of effort into policing this. She noted that there will still be people who will be dishonest when registering for programs, as far as their address.

The red flags will be the easy ones to catch, Council Member Smith said, such as those who pay with a check and the address on the check is different than the address on the application or the billing address is not the same as their residence.

Mayor Graham commented that he sees some merit in the theory but said he thinks it will be hard to police and checking addresses is difficult. What about the individual child who needs to be a part of a program and does not have the political skills to lobby to not have to pay, which is what it comes down to, Mayor Graham said.

Council Member Butler said all the activities are for children, for the most part, and added that he likes the fee structure the way it is. He said he could see a charge for scuba diving, horseback riding, volleyball and some other activities. It is the swimming, T-ball, youth baseball, tennis and golf that he said he has an issue with and would like to keep it the same.

Mayor Graham noted that swimming has a concurrent life safety issue and has a desirable social outcome. He said he appreciates all the new activities and noted that he understands the fees have to be changed by ordinance.

When asked about golf fees, Ms. Cook replied that the cost for golf is \$6.95 per child per day, which is eight sessions at 45 minutes each.

Council Member Butler said he thought the cost to the City of \$6,000 seemed a bit high.

Council and staff discussed golf and the fees.

Ms. Gardner pointed out there are non-City residents that participate in all activities.

Mayor Graham said he always thought out of City users were kind of incidental, one here or there or from just outside the City limits.

Ms. Gardner said she predicts that 15% to 20% of those that participate in programs are from outside of the City.

Mayor Graham asked if that varies radically from sport to sport.

Ms. Gardner replied that some sports, such as T-ball, have many more children that participate as opposed to tennis or golf.

Mayor Graham inquired if Parks and Rec is proposing \$25 for golf, stipulating that City residents would get to fill up the roster first.

Ms. Gardner said that is the plan and she said the majority of other municipalities give their residents the ability to sign up first.

Mayor Graham suggested an example of charging a fee of \$25 for City residents for golf, and if someone from Adams wanted to take a golf lesson they would pay the Watertown Golf Club.

Council Member Macaluso asked if they would pay the Golf Club instead of the City in that case.

Mayor Graham replied they would, then there would not be an out of City rate.

Council Member Macaluso said she does not agree with that scenario stating that it is fine to have children from outside the City but that they need to pay more.

Council Member Smith said he thinks Council agrees that there should be separate rates for in and out of City residents. A good point, he said, is whether or not the City should charge cost for outside the City users.

Mayor Graham said he thinks swimming should be offered to all children for free and that some sports should be provided to City children.

Ms. Cook said the idea of having free swimming lessons is great but what happens is that everyone enrolls in it, maxing-out the class and then a lot of people do not attend because it is free or they do not fulfill the entire lesson; the percentage of those who 'fail' is high because of that.

Council Member Smith said Ms. Cook made a good point for a nominal fee but that there has to be a difference between City and non City users.

Council Member Butler said his position is to make it as affordable as possible.

Ms. Gardner noted the point is not to make any money.

Council Member Butler said the City is subsidizing the entire swimming lesson program, for City residents. He suggested leaving all the fees as is.

Council Member Smith suggested raising golf and tennis fees.

Council Member Burns said she wished to leave those fees as they are because tennis and golf are not affordable to all families if they have to pay the actual rate of going to a golf course. She said there is a majority of Council that agrees there should be a difference between City and non-City residents for fees.

Discussion centered around why the City should subsidize non-City residents and the point was made that non-City residents work in the City and shop here as well.

Mayor Graham asked if there are many non-City resident golf students.

Ms. Cook said there are many and usually the classes overflow prompting the creation of another session.

Mayor Graham responded that the reason sign-ups are limited is because if there are more sessions the level of subsidy increases.

Ms. Gardner pointed out that the City pays the Golf Club \$2,000 per session.

Council Member Butler inquired about the pavilion fee of \$50.

Ms. Gardner said that fee would be consistent with the J. B. Wise Pavilion and other City pavilions.

Mayor Graham asked if the department will attempt to bifurcate between City and non-City residents.

Ms. Gardner replied that they had not planned to but will reexamine that. She noted that the goal was to have one rate for each activity regardless of residence.

Council Member Smith questioned if the rate is the same for City residents as it is for non-City residents, with an attempt to cover 50% of the cost of the program, that means the other 50% is covered by taxpayers, he said it would cost the City resident more to use their own programs and asked how that could be fair.

Mayor Graham commented that this may need some more discussion. Some of the more fitness related activities should either be free or have a nominal fee for City residents, he said.

Council Member Butler asked if all activities were targeted to recoup 50% or if some were supposed to recoup more than that.

Ms. Gardner reminded Council that the City Manager instructed the department to recoup at least 50% of what goes into these programs.

Council Member Smith remarked that he applauds the Parks and Recreation Department on all the new activities but added that he thinks there should be separate fees.

Council Member Butler added that he would like to see more consistency regarding recouping of program costs.

Council Member Burns said she does not mind if a little more money could be made in the yoga class since there are more people that can fit into that program, versus the scuba class and perhaps one class could help subsidize another.

Regarding the new software at the Parks department, Mayor Graham asked if it can be ascertained how much money is coming in for each program or if it all goes into one place.

Ms. Gardner replied that there most likely is a way the funds can be delineated.

Council Member Butler asked if staff is well-versed on the software and its capabilities.

Ms. Gardner said there are some glitches which the company is trying to work out on its end but so far they are very happy with the new program and it has been an asset to the department.

Audio Arsenal – Cheryl Clark, Police Captain

Mayor Graham began by saying this has been a tough issue for City Council because normally when there is a complaint, a resident will call the police, it is dealt with and it does not generally come before Council. A noise ordinance did not seem to remedy the situation either, he said, and asked about the situation and if the business is intentionally trying to antagonize the neighbors.

Captain Clark said she did not believe there was any intentional antagonism but rather that it comes down to the equipment, which are big bases in cars. She added that most of the time when the police arrive, the vehicles are inside a building with the doors closed and what the neighbors hear is the low

base. Sometimes the situation is that a customer is picking up their car and they are testing out the new system in the parking lot to check its quality before they leave, she said.

Mayor Graham noted that some people have said customers intentionally park out back and turn up their stereos to try to annoy the neighbors.

Captain Clark replied that she does not believe any of their patrols have come across that scenario because by the time police arrive, music has stopped.

Council Member Smith said one concern he has is that some of the complaints come after business hours.

Captain Clark said some of the complaints come between 4:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., which would not have to do with the business necessarily, but rather someone pulling into the parking lot. She suggested that perhaps some of the noise comes from traffic on Arsenal Street at later hours. In addition, she noted that there is not much the police can do because it is not a public nuisance, per se, and said Civil Court might be utilized to find some solution but it is not something they can enforce and this has been discussed with Attorney Slye several times.

Council Member Butler asked if there were three cars blaring music at Burger King at 9:00 p.m., the police could write a disorderly conduct ticket.

Captain Clark replied that if it is an individual, then yes, a ticket could be issued.

Council Member Butler also questioned if three cars are present in the Audio Arsenal lot blasting music, they could receive a ticket as well.

Captain Clark said that could be done.

Council Member Butler noted that the ticket would most likely not be issued under the noise ordinance umbrella.

Probably not, Captain Clark replied. In that case, it is an issue of individuals not a business.

Council Member Macaluso said she has taken several calls from the neighbor and has said the calls come in at all times of day.

Captain Clark reminded Council that then the issue is about a business, which is there legally. She said there is just one person on that street that calls and there are four or five houses on that street behind Audio Arsenal.

Council Member Burns remarked that Captain Clark is saying exactly what Attorney Slye has said. She noted it is a legally operating business, zoned appropriately, and asked if it is the belief of the Police Department that the business owner is intentionally trying to antagonize the residents or is he trying to cooperate.

Captain Clark replied that in the beginning there may have been some antagonizing but at this point, she said she thinks the owner is just trying to run his business.

Council Member Butler asked at what point do the police not respond.

Captain Clark said they have to respond every time there is a call stating that since April of 2011 there have been 112 calls to Audio Arsenal.

Mayor Graham asked if someone repeatedly calls in a complaint about something and it is unsubstantiated, whether there is some culpability in that matter.

It could be found as falsely reporting an incident, Captain Clark said, but when Ms. Ryan is calling there is an issue occurring. She mentioned that there is a stereo contest held at the business as well, but the cars are brought inside the building when the stereo is turned on.

Mayor Graham asked if anyone has spoken with the owners of the store.

Captain Clark noted she has not spoken with the owners but has talked with Ms. Ryan several times.

Mayor Graham said he wondered if it might be appropriate for either the Chief or Captain Clark to speak with the owner to tell him what is going on regarding the number of complaints and ask how long this might go on. He suggested trying to determine from the other neighbors whether there is a problem and they just are not calling because they do not want to bother or if there is an oversensitivity. There is a need for more information, he said, that probably goes beyond what would normally be done and when there are 112 calls it costs money, from a manpower standpoint.

Captain Clark remarked that other shift supervisors in the Police Department have spoken with the owner and there have been efforts to come to some sort of an agreement but it has not seemed to help with Ms. Ryan. Since April 20, 2013, she said there have been 8 calls.

Council discussed the proximity of the Ryan residence to Audio Arsenal.

Council Member Butler said he would like to see it enforced that individuals who may be parking in the Audio Arsenal lot playing stereos after hours be issued tickets.

Library Façade/ Fountain Bids – Ken Mix, Planning and Community Development Coordinator

Mr. Mix said he would like to have some direction from City Council this evening so a resolution could be drafted for the next meeting. He reviewed the project and noted the bids were opened last week. Mr. Mix pointed out the bid tabulation in front of Council and said Raymond Kelley was the low bidder at \$259,900.00. He said the total budgeted amount was \$250,000 and the recommended bid total is \$253,400. In the capital budget, there was \$200,000 set aside for the façade and \$50,000 for the fountain, he said. After engineering fees were subtracted, even with the deduct, he said, the project is still about \$31,000 over budget. Of great significance is the value given to the fountain, he said, which is \$146,600, substantially higher than expected. The alternatives are for Council to come up with the additional money for the budget and accept the bid or reject the bid and rebid them.

Mayor Graham asked if the City was bonding for this.

Mr. Mix replied that was not the plan but it is another option. A change order might come up regarding the soffits and what is holding them, he said. Another issue has to do with the front steps and the reconstruction thereof.

Mayor Graham said that this project was going to be done as proposed.

Council Member Smith said he thinks the whole project will have to be done.

Council discussed the project and the lion restoration and the various scopes of the project.

(Council Member Macaluso left the meeting at 9:47 p.m.)

Mayor Graham said he favors accepting the Raymond Kelley bid.

Council Member Smith concurred adding that there should not be any bonding.

Council Member Burns agreed.

Council Member Butler said he agreed but noted he had some reservations on the lion restoration.

Mr. Mix noted that if it will be bonded, the ordinance has to be adopted before the City incurs any costs.

Jefferson County Historical Society Funding Request

Council Member Burns excused herself from the discussion since she is on the Board.

Mayor Graham said there is not a lot of detail in the memo before them and rather than just agreeing to give them funding, he said he would like to get more detail or a proposal.

Council Member Butler said there is no specification how the money will be spent and how much will go to the Tourism Council and how much will go to some other areas money has been spent on in the past.

Council Member Smith remarked that he would not want to give more funding than what was given last year.

Mayor Graham concluded that he would like more detail on the request.

Meeting ended at 9:50 p.m.

Amanda C. Lewis
Deputy City Clerk